

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 233209 TOSEC 270429

64

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:ENADEAU:MBB

APPROVED BY ARA:WHLUERS

ARA/PAN:SMBELL(DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 233209 TOSEC 270429

FOR THE SECRETARY, FOR SHLAUDEMAN FROM LUERS, ACTING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP(KISSINGER, HENRY A.), PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: PANAMA SITUATION REPORT

REF: STATE 231700/TOSEC 270372

1. THE GOP HAS BACKED OFF FROM CHARGES OF U.S. GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEMONSTRATIONS. WHILE PANAMANIAN PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN LOW KEY, OUR EMBASSY'S DENIAL OF ANY USG AGENCY INVOLVEMENT HAS RECEIVED AMPLE TREATMENT. PANAMA'S VICE PRESIDENT PURSUED THIS LINE IN A SPEECH 9/18 BY STATING QUOTE LET THIS BE CLEAR: WE ARE NOT SAYING THERE WAS ANY AGENCY OR GOVERNMENT INVOLVED IN THIS, BECAUSE WE HAVE NO PROOF UNQUOTE. GOP HAS NOT WITHDRAWN NOTE, HOWEVER, AND EMBASSY IS SENDING PROPOSED DRAFT REPLY TO DEPARTMENT TODAY.

2. U.S. PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN MODERATE AND FACTUAL. LITTLE COVERAGE HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE TREATY NEGOTIATION ASPECTS OR TO THE QUOTE FLIP FLOP UNQUOTE THEME.

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AN ABBREVIATED BINDER ARTICLE MADE ONLY ONE OF THE LATE

AND LIMITED EDITIONS OF THE NEW YORK TIMES. NO QUESTIONS
WERE ASKED AT TODAY'S NOON BRIEFING. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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